(iv) NLC shall supply on payment raw lignite to the project in accordance with its actual requirements.

(v) The agreement shall be subject to Indian laws.

M/s. STPS has since formed an Indian Company known as M/s. ST-CMS Electric Company to implement this project.

NLC's Zero Unit project and the project now to be implemented by M/s. ST-CMS Electric Company are not exactly identical. While NLC's Zero Unit project capacity was 1x210 MW, the project of M/s. ST-CMS Electric Company has a proposed capacity of 1x250 MW. The two projects also differ in the pattern of ownership, in location, availability of infrastructure, in customer profile, etc.

The Zero Unit project of NLC was sanctioned at a capital cost of Rs. 397.26 crores at 7/88 base. The cost projected by the private company for their project is about Rs. 1125 crores. The difference in cost is attributed, inter-alia, to the following major reasons :—

(i) Escalation in cost over a period of time.

(ii) Change in debt—equity ratio and pattern of financing.

(iii) Increase in the capacity of the unit from 210 MW to 250 MW.

(iv) Additional land cost and other infrastructural facilities to be provided by the new company.

Effect on the economy of coal producing States due to reduction in import duty on coal

7334. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the consequent effect on the Coal India Limited and Coal producing States' economy as a result of reduction in import of duty on coal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : The reduction in import duty on non-coking coals would reduce the cost of imported coal to Indian Coal Consumers. A quick appraisal made by Coal India Limited indicates that with reduced import duty, the landed cost of imported coal at some Thermal Power Plants near the ports may be lower than the landed cost of indigenous coal. The implications of this reduction in customs duty on Indian Coal Companies and Coal producing States would depend on the quantities of coal actually imported and therefore cannot be accurately assessed for the present.

Employment in different subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd.

7335. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of workforce, category-wise in different subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd.; and

(b) what are the details of the number of officers, employees and workers in different subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) and (b) The categorywise details